



1706 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN 2006

They that can give up  
essential liberty to obtain  
a little temporary safety  
deserve neither  
liberty nor safety.

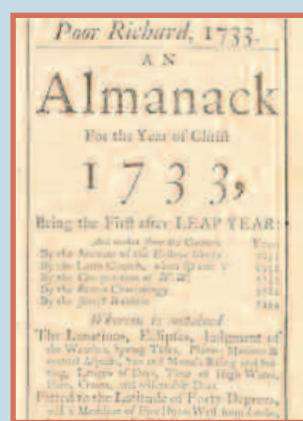
Benjamin Franklin

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

1706-1790



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ROSE FROM HUMBLE origins to become one of the most celebrated of America's Founding Fathers. A man of boundless curiosity and drive, Franklin became a successful author, printer, and publisher, best known for the homespun wisdom of his *Poor Richard's Almanack*. Drawn to science, Franklin gave us the lightning rod and bifocal eyeglasses. An advocate of civic improvement in his adopted home city of Philadelphia, he helped found a library, a volunteer fire company, an academy (later the University of Pennsylvania), and a hospital. As a statesman, Franklin helped Independence and the U.S. vital wartime alliance with of American independence, to abolish slavery. Above: Franklin helped prove the connection between electricity and



flies a kite in a thunderstorm, a famous experiment that lightning. Left: Poor Richard's Almanack, a collection of Opposite: Franklin portrait by David Martin, c.1772.